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سُوْرَةُ الْكَوْثَرِ

Sūrah al-Kawthar

108

BACKGROUND OF REVELATION شان نزول

When RasūlAllāh's ﷺ son, Hazrat Qāsim passed away, the disbelievers [*kāfirs*] of Makkah said: 'His lineage has been cut off. His message and movement will also be finished'.

Allāh ﷻ refuted disbelievers and said it is the enemies of RasūlAllāh ﷺ who will be cut off [*abtar*] and perish.

In another ĥadīth, RasūlAllāh ﷺ [was in Madīnah; he] bowed down his head and raised it and said that the sūrah was revealed to him.

MADANI *[Suyūţī, Nawawī, Ibn Ĥajar]*

But some have said that it is Makkī.

3	10	42
VERSES	WORDS	LETTERS

Shortest sūrah in the Qur'ān.

Ĥadīth of Kawthar

Imām Aĥmad reports in a short chain from Anas ibn Mālik : RasūlAllāh ﷺ [bowed down as if] he were in a trance; suddenly, he raised his head and he was smiling. Either they asked him: “Why do you smile” or he said it himself: “Do you know why I smiled?”

He then said: “Indeed, a sūrah was revealed to me just now” and he recited: “***In the name of Allāh, the Most Beneficent, the Merciful. Indeed We have given you the Kawthar***” and recited until end.

He then asked: “Do you know what is Kawthar?”

The [companions] said: “Allāh and His Messenger know better.”

He replied: “It is a river in Paradise, that my Lord Almighty has given me, upon which is great goodness and my followers [ummah] will pass by it on Judgement Day. The goblets placed [on the banks] to drink from it are greater in number, than the stars in the sky. Some people will be prevented from approaching it and I will say: “O my Lord, this is my follower”. But it will be said: “You do not know about what they have done after you left them”.

Since this is narrated by the companion Anas, it is deemed that the sūrah is Madanī.

بِسۡمِ ٱللَّهِ ٱلرَّحۡمَٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّآ أَعۡطَيۡنَٰكَ ٱلۡكَوۡثَرَ ﴿١﴾

فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَٱنۡحَرۡ ﴿٢﴾

إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ ٱلۡأَبۡتَرُ ﴿٣﴾

اللہ کے نام سے شروع جو نہایت مہربان رحم والا

اے محبوب بیشک ہم نے تمہیں بے شمار خوبیاں عطا فرمائیں

تو تم اپنے رب کے لئے نماز پڑھو اور قربانی کرو

بیشک جو تمہارا دشمن ہے وہی ہر خیر سے محروم ہے

In the name of Allāh, the most Beneficent, the Merciful

1. Verily we have given you abundance (or *Al-Kawthar*).
2. So, worship your Lord Almighty (Rabb) and perform sacrifice.
3. Indeed, your enemy is deprived from every goodness.

إِنَّآ أَعۡطَيۡنَٰكَ ٱلۡكَوۡثَرَ ١

اے محبوب بیشک ہم نے تمہیں بے شمار خوبیاں عطا فرمائیں

Verily we have given you abundance (or *Al-Kawthar*).

Kawthar: from Kathrah كثرة كثر meaning in plenty, in abundance, numerous.

Imām Qurţubī in his tafsir mentions that there are 16 possible meanings proposed by mufassirin regarding the word ***al-Kawthar***:

1. It is a stream [*nahr*] in Paradise

   narrated by Hazrat Anas and reported in Bukhārī and Muslim; and by Ibn Úmar in Tirmidhī.
2. It is pool of water [*hawd*] given to RasūlAllāh ﷺ

   narrated by Hazrat Ibn Úmar and reported in Muslim
3. Prophethood [*nubuwwah*]
4. The Qur'ān
5. Islām
6. Qur'ān made easy
7. His companions and followers are numerous
8. Sacrifice [*iythar*]
9. The mention [*zikr*] of RasūlAllāh ﷺ is abundant
10. Light [*nur*] put in RasūlAllāh's ﷺ heart.
11. Intercession or *shafa'at*
12. Numerous Miracles [*mujizat*] of RasūlAllāh ﷺ
13. The Kalimah: *La Ilaha Illa'Allāh Muĥammad RasūlAllāh*
14. Knowledge of Religion [*fiqh fi'd deen*]
15. Şalawāt or Blessings or Durud Sharīf
16. Greatness in everything

Kawthar given to RasūlAllāh ﷺ

Meaning an abundance of every form of goodness
and good attributes are bestowed upon him.
It also means that the Pool of Kawthar is given to him
from which he will quench the thirst of believers
on Judgement Day.

Hawd al-Kawthar

Kawthar is a pool of water whose floor is laced with musk and strewn with diamonds and pearls. The walls of this pool will be made of gold and pearls embedded in them. There will be cups [to drink from] which are far greater than the stars in number. Its water will be whiter than milk, sweeter than honey and smells better than musk.

Whoever drinks from this pool will never feel thirsty ever again.

Allāh táālā has given this Pool to His most beloved and the most honoured Prophet ﷺ.

The Prophet ﷺ will distribute water from this Pool to his followers.

فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَٱنْحَرْ ۝٢

تو تم اپنے رب کے لئے نماز پڑھو اور قربانی کرو

So, worship your Lord Almighty (Rabb) and perform sacrifice.

Prayer and Sacrifice

Salli refers to both obligatory [fard] and supererogatory [nawafil] prayer.

Nahr refers to sacrifice. The correct interpretation is that this refers to sacrifice prescribed in Dhu'l Ĥijjah. Therefore the Prophet ﷺ used to first pray and then perform the sacrifice.

UNCOMMON OPINIONS:

Imām Baqir has said: "*Nahr* means to raise your hands when you start prayer"

Áţā al-Khurasani has said: '*Nahr* means to stand upright after bowing down [rukuu] before you prostrate.

إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ ﴿٣﴾

بیشک جو تمہارا دشمن ہے وہی ہر خیر سے محروم ہے

Abtar

Abtar means someone whose lineage [*nasl*] is cut off. The Arabs used to call someone whose daughters survived and their sons died as *abtar;* meaning a person whose line was discontinued.

Áāş ibn Wayil – a kāfir – said to RasūlAllāh ﷺ that he had become *abtar*, when his son Ábdullāh had died (*according to one narration*).

Allāh refuted it – and Áāş ibn Wayil is forgotten but not only is the name of RasūlAllāh ﷺ living and his memory fresh, but his descendants are plenty – the syeds are present everywhere in the world and are numerous.

This is a living miracle of the Qur'ān.

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